

*Marketing and Regulatory Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Program
Processed Products Branch*

CAREER INTERN PROGRAM (CIP)

Job Number: AMS-FV-PPB-ERO-2007-005
POSITION: Agricultural Commodity Grader (Processed Products)
OPEN: September 24, 2007
CLOSES: October 15, 2007
SALARY: GS-1980-05 (\$29,694 – \$38,602)
GS-1980-07 (\$36,783 - \$47,819)
PROMOTION POTENTIAL: GS-07
DUTY LOCATION: College Park, GA

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Everyone may apply. U.S. Citizenship is required to be appointed. Federal status is not required when applying under “Public” announcements.

NOTE: This position is being filled under the Federal Career Intern Program (CIP). Additional information on the CIP is available at <http://www.opm.gov/careerintern/index.asp>.

INTRODUCTION: The position is located in a field location of the Processed Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service. The incumbent performs inspection and grading work on processed fruits, vegetable, and related products at processing plants, Field Offices, and/or inspections points and similar facilities as assigned. Assignments are technically limited and/or involve a limited number of varieties of processed fruits and vegetables.

DUTIES (GENERAL): Selects representative samples from product lines or completed lots according to approved sample plans.

Determines the U.S. grade and issues certification documents for products inspected. Inspectors evaluate and determine a variety of quality differences in product quality.

Performs condition of container inspection to determine kind and extent of defects. Performa condition of product inspection at destination.

Observes processing plants for sanitation to determine compliance with Department rules and FDA regulations. If the plant is not in compliance, the grader reports this to plant management and higher Branch officials. Observes characteristics of the raw product. Advises plant management of findings and the feasibility of proposed changes to improve quality stability of the processed product and sanitation.

Performs a limited number of analytical determinations by prescribed methods and techniques under the direction of an inspector of higher grade.

Qualifications: For GS-05 Successful completion of a full 4 year course of study leading to a bachelor’s degree.

OR

General Experience: 3 years of general, progressively responsible experience, 1 year of which is equivalent to at least a GS-4 level. General experience that would qualify if that which demonstrates the ability to analyze programs to identify significant factors, gather pertinent data, and recognize solutions; plan and organize work; and communicate effectively orally and in writing. Such experience may have been gained performing the following types of work: commodity buyer, receiving clerk, office manager, administrative assistant (with decision-making responsibility), food processing laboratory work (managerial or technical), and farm experience that included responsibility for decision-making (excludes general laborers). General clerical experience (typing, filing, routine procedural processing, and maintaining records) is not creditable.

OR

Equivalent combination of education and experience may be used to meet the total qualification.

Qualifications: For GS-07 Successful completion of 1 year of graduate level education from an accredited college or university in agriculture, mathematics, engineering, science, business, economics or superior academic achievement is fully qualifying for grade GS-7

OR

Superior academic achievement (SAA). SAA is based on either 1) Class standing, upper third of the graduating class in the college, university or major subdivision based on completed courses; or 2) Grade-point average, 3.0 or higher out of a possible 4.0 as recorded on my official transcripts, or as computed based on 4 years of education, or as computed based on courses completed during the final 2 years of the curriculum; or 3.5 or higher out of a possible 4.0 based on the average of the required courses in the major filed completed during the final 2 years of the curriculum; or 3) Election to membership in one of the national scholastic honor societies listed in the Association of College Honor Societies and/or Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities. Submit a copy of your transcript, proof of Class Standing, GPS computation, or Honor Society membership.

OR

Equivalent combination of education and experience may be used to meet the total qualification.

HOW TO APPLY

TO BE CONSIDERED, YOU MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN NON-CONSIDERATION:

* **A resume or OF-612** (Optional Application for Federal Employment), or any written application. Be sure to indicate the **Vacancy Announcement Number**. Electronic versions of the OF-612 and an on-line resume builder may be accessed at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

AND

* **The USDA Career Intern Program (CIP) application.** The CIP application is available at <http://www.usda.gov/da/employ/CareerInternApplication.htm>.

AND

* **Your most recent transcript.**

Please be sure to indicate your email address, as further communication with you on the status of your application may be by email.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY C.O.B. (4:30 P.M. CST) ON THE CLOSING DATE of this announcement. If you request forms late in the open period, you are still required to have your application received by the closing date. No extensions will be given.

WHERE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS:

**USDA, AMS, F&V, PPB
ATTN: Career Intern Program
800 Roosevelt Road, Suite A380
Glen Ellyn, IL 60139
Fax: 630-469-5162**

VETERANS PREFERENCE: If you are claiming 5-point veteran's preference, you must submit a DD-214. If you are claiming 10-points veteran's preference based on a compensable service connected disability of 10 percent or more, you **MUST** submit a DD-214, SF-15 and letter from the Veterans Administration identifying the percentage of disability for preference determination. Additional information on veteran's preference is available in the Vet Guide available at <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetguide.htm>.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: The Department of Agriculture provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the point of contact listed on this vacancy announcement. Additional information on persons with disabilities is available at <http://www.opm.gov/disability/>. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

The application contains information subject to the Privacy Act (P.L. 93-579, 5 USC 522a). The information is used to determine qualifications for employment, and is authorized under Title 5, USC, Section 3302 and 3361.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

All qualification requirements must be met by the closing date of this announcement. Males born after 12/31/59 desiring Federal employment must be registered with the Selective Service System.

Appointments under this announcement include a two-year probationary/trial period requirement.

A background security investigation will be required for all new hires. Appointment will be subject to the applicant's successful completion of a background security investigation and favorable adjudication. Failure to successfully meet these requirements will be grounds for termination.

Position may require 11 or more nights of travel on a monthly basis and may also include weekend, shift and/or rotational shift work.

Geographical Mobility Understanding: Applicant will be required to sign a statement at the time of appointment indicating willingness to accept a reassignment to other geographical locations throughout the United States, as deemed necessary by the agency.

The use of Federal Government postage-paid envelopes in filing applications is a violation of federal law and will disqualify you from consideration.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its

programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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AND EMPLOYER.**

For further information regarding this announcement, please contact Margaret James @ 630-790-6958 or at Margaret.James@USDA.gov.